Eco-city Project

3708. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of Eco-City Project;

(b) the places which have been taken up under this project, State-wise; and

(c) how much amount has been spent, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has taken up Eco-City Project in towns of Kottayam (Kerala), Puri (Orissa), Thanjavour (Tamil Nadu), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh). Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh) and Vrindavan (Uttar Pradesh). The objective of Eco-City Project is to demonstrate verifiable environmental improvement in the core area of selected towns. For environmental improvement, the project includes various schemes of improvement in traffic systems, maintenance of drains, solid waste management, plantation and landscaping and other relevant schemes. So far, town-wise status of funds released under the Scheme is as follow:—

.	Kottayam	Rs. 21,55,000.
.	Tirupati	Rs. 49,34,700.
.	Vrindavan	Rs. 43,00,000.
.	Ujjain	Rs. 67,41,000.
.	Puri	Rs. 55,53,300.
.	Thanjavour	So far, no funds released.

Protection of inmates of zoos/wildlife sanctuaries from heat

3709. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many parts of India is going to face more scorching summer in coming days;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure adequate availability of water and power for protection of inmates of various zoos and wildlife sanctuaries in those areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) As per the climatological features of the hot weather season (the period of March to

June), the normal temperatures are generally high over Indian subcontinent. Occasionally the ambient temperatures over certain parts of the country rise above normal values depending on the meteorological conditions. Although, there is year to year variation in the occurrence of the scorching temperatures over defferent parts of the country, these conditions presently prevailing over various parts of the country are within the range of normally observed temperature fluctuations during this period of summer season.

(c) Under Recognition of Zoo Rules (Rule 24), it is mandatory for every zoo operator to ensure round the clock supply of portable water for drinking purposes in each cell/enclosure/cubicle of the animals. The Government of India provides financial assistance through the Central Zoo Authority and Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries", "Project Tiger" and "Project Elephant" to zoos and National parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, Tiger Reserves, Elephant Reserves, respectively for laying of water supply and power lines in the premises of zoos, and development of water holes and water harvesting structures in the natural habitats, to ensure adequate availability of water to the animals.

Air pollution in Delhi

3710. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a long term study has shown that Delhi has the most polluted air in the country, resulting in maximum number of people suffering from disorders like asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chronic bronchitis and chromosomal abnormalities that may ultimately lead to cancer, when compared to other parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details with comparative chart for other metros and major cities of India; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to clean up the air in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with State Pollution Control Board (SPCB)/Pollution Control Committees (PCC) and institutions is monitoring ambient air quality at 326 locations covering various cities and towns. A statement indicating ambient air quality in certain identified metros and mega cities for last three years is at statement (*see* below). The monitored data indicates that levels of Sulphur Dioxide (SO_2) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_2) are within the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.